

Irish Johnny Curtin Triumphs Over Midget Smith in 12-Round Bout at Jersey City Arena

Local Boxer Fulfills Contract By Replacing Abe Freidman

On Two Hours' Notice Midget Takes On Tough Irishman and Loses Seven Out of Twelve Rounds; May Box Lynch at the Garden

By Jack Lawrence

Going into the ring on short notice and after having done five miles of roadwork, Midget Smith, of New York, went to Jersey City last night and lost to Irish Johnny Curtin. The fight was a terrific struggle from first to last, Curtin taking seven out of the twelve rounds. Two rounds were even and the rest were Smith's.

The New Jersey Boxing Commission refused to allow Smith to fight Joe Lynch for the world bantamweight title on Friday night at Madison Square Garden until he kept his engagement to meet Curtin in Jersey City. This ultimatum was made known to Smith at noon yesterday as he came off the road. He gamely agreed to go through with the match and under the conditions put up a great exhibition.

Whether his showing last night will preclude the possibility of holding the Lynch battle on Friday night remains to be seen. Curtin was always dangerous last night and fought one of the best bouts of his career.

Smith has few boosters. Smith apparently had few friends in the big audience. He entered the ring first and received a round of "boos." Curtin drew deafening applause. Curtin's weight was announced as 121, while that of Smith was given as 124. Abe Friedman, who was to have been Curtin's opponent last night, was introduced before the boys got together. Harry Erle, the referee, gave both some lengthy instructions before they started the freeworks.

The first round was a wild affair. Smith landed a hard smash to the jaw in the early part of the round and drove home some terrific slams to the body, but Curtin retaliated with heavy drives to the jaw that did not do the Midget any good.

In the second, Curtin opened an old cut over the Midget's left eye, but absorbed a lot of body punishment before the session was over. The round was about even.

Smith shot over a hard jolt to the jaw in the third that shook Curtin up considerably, but Johnny came back with a hard body punch that hurt Smith. The Midget chopped another hard shot to the chin as the round ended. It was Smith's round.

Curtin opens barrage. Smith took the fourth in handy fashion, shooting hard drives to the jaw and a number of mean digs to the stomach. There was a lot of hard fighting in the fifth, and at this game the New Yorker was a little the better and the round ended by slight margin.

Curtin, carrying the fight to Smith and landing hard smashes to the body and heart, had the better of the sixth. The seventh was all Smith. He chopped Curtin plenty on the jaw and hooked some wicked shots to the body. The house was in an uproar as Curtin opened up a wild attack that swept the Midget before it in the eighth. It was Curtin's round all the way. The ninth was also Curtin's, and he had a slight margin in the tenth. The eleventh and twelfth also went to the Jersey boy by a slight margin.

In the opening bout of six rounds, Tommy Egan and Pete Scialto fought a fast draw. The next encounter George Bush of West Hoboken, outpointed Tommy Gyp, of New York. They also went six rounds.

In another six-rounder a stranger named Chief Heilbrun, of West Point, knocked out Jimmy O'Brien, of New York, after 1 minute and 50 seconds of the third round. Heilbrun weighed 175 and O'Brien 150.

The semi-final brought together Johnny Darcy, of Bayonne, and Sailor Morris, of West Hoboken. Darcy won all the way, taking every one of the eight rounds.

Willie Kamm and Jimmy O'Connell Hit Well on Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—High batting percentages were made in 1922 by three Pacific Coast baseball League stars—Willie Kamm, Jimmy O'Connell and Sam Rice. They all went to the majors next spring at high sale prices, according to the league records made public here by President W. H. McCarthy.

Kamm, San Francisco third baseman, led his club, with an average of .332. He was seventh among the league hitters. Kamm was sold to the Chicago White Sox for \$100,000 cash and players' contracts, \$20,000. O'Connell, San Francisco outfielder, who was sold to the New York Giants for \$75,000, was tenth on the list, with an average of .335.

Jackie May, Vernon pitcher, who may be sold to the New York Yankees, led the league hurlers, with a percentage of .795, and with an earned run average of 1.84 per game against him.

Two Salt Lake sluggers, Paul Strand and Manager Duffy Lewis, led the league in hitting. Strand with an average of .384 and Lewis with .362.

Cohen Defeats Marino In Bout at Broadway

Sammy Cohen, of the East Side, was awarded the judges' decision over Young Marino, of New York, in the main event of ten rounds at the Broadway Exhibition Association, Brooklyn, last night. The bout was exceptionally fast, with Cohen holding a slight advantage throughout.

Frankie Powers, of New York, knocked out Joe Pledge, of Long Island City, in the fifth round of the scheduled ten-round semi-final. Frank D'Annunzio, of Providence, scored a whirlwind knockout over Young Nelson, of Hartford, in the sixth round of the first ten-round bout.

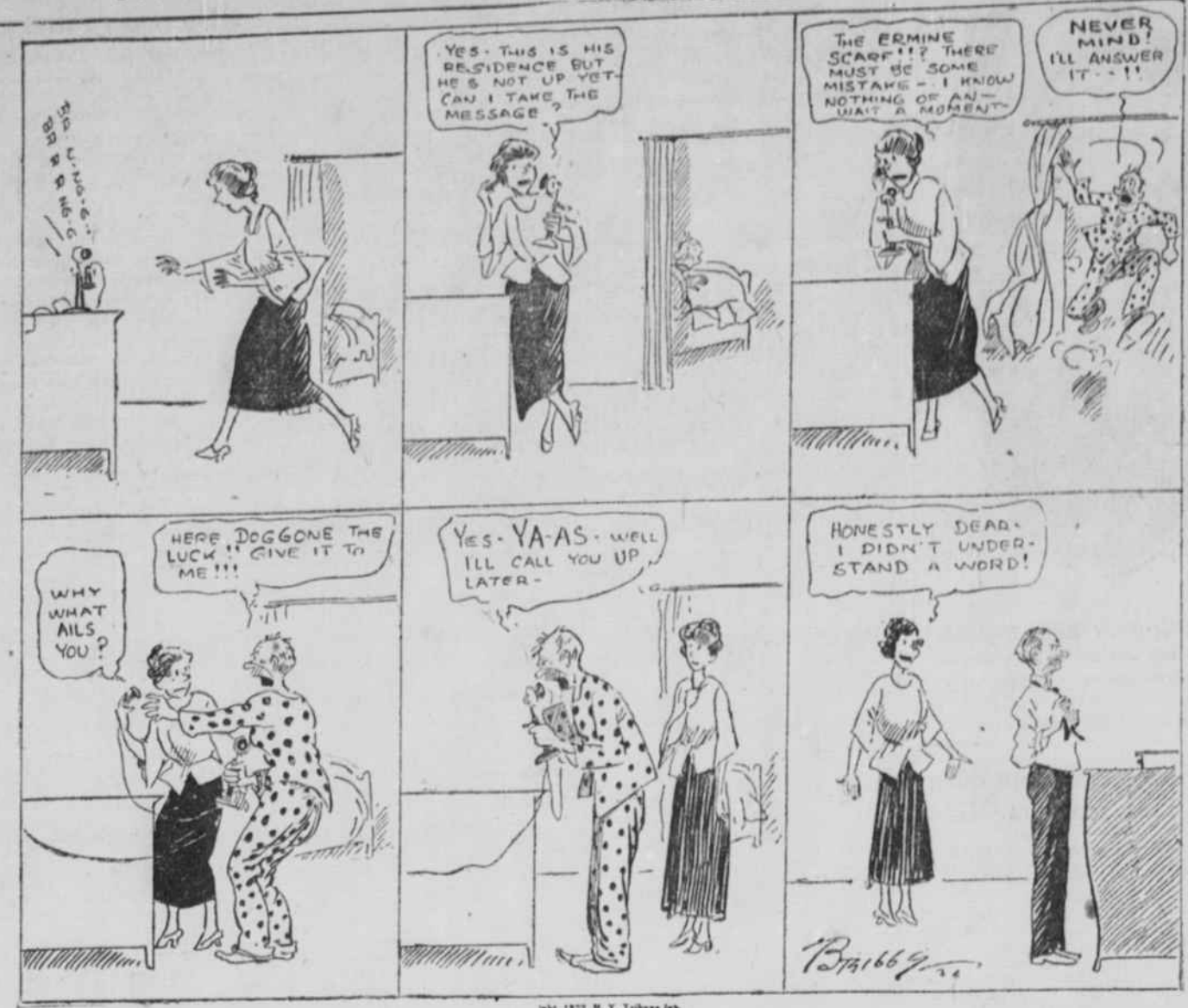
State Champions May Box in Loughlin Meet

Many of the newly crowned New York State amateur boxing champions are expected to compete in the two-day tournament which will be staged by Loughlin Lynam on Friday, January 12, and Monday, January 15. Several of the title holders have assured Joseph A. Faith, chairman of the entry committee, of their intention to appear in the Loughlin Lynam tourney.

Twenty-five have already been received for the five classes which will be contested. Valuable prizes will be given the winners, the runners up and the semi-finalists.

Jerome Wins From White. Frankie Jerome, of the Bronx, won on a foot from White, of Albany, last night in the eighth round of the scheduled twelve-round final bout at the Harlem-Fairmont Sporting Club. Sid Terrell defeated Jim Joyce in the semi-final.

It Happens in the Best Regulated Families



Army Quintet Makes Remarkable Record

WEST POINT, N. Y., Dec. 18.—The United States Military Academy's basketball five is credited with one of the most unusual records in the history of the court game as a result of the cadets' feat in preventing the first two college teams it faced this season from scoring a point from the field.

Krug entered the ring weighing 154 pounds, which made the title safe for Walker, no matter what the result, as the welterweight limit is 147. Mickey himself tipped the beam at 149 1/2.

Princeton Awards Letters for Soccer, Tennis and Golf

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 18.—The Princeton undergraduate athletic committee in its final session of the year today awarded twenty insignias and voted to recognize polo as one of the regular minor sports of the university. In addition it was voted to award insignia annually to the members of the polo team who take part in varsity contests.

Mrs. Hitt Joins Jockey Club And Will Race Stable Here

Mrs. William F. Hitt, formerly Miss Katherine Elkins, has registered colors with the Jockey Club, and plans to figure prominently in the Maryland and Metropolitan turf in 1923.

Mrs. Hitt, who is the daughter of the late famous United States Senator, of West Virginia, will race under the stable name of Mrs. K. E. Hitt. Her registered colors are white, with black belt and cap. Johnny Hastings will train Mrs. Hitt's horses.

Soccer League Player Dead

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 18.—Jimmy Wahl, star player on the Duluth Hockey League team, died at his home here today, after a brief illness.

Duffer's Glue

"And I would like for Christmas, I hear one duffer call, A pint of Duffer's Glue, to keep My eye upon the ball; Something to make my noble bean Stay where it should and not career."

Mountaineers Work Well In Drill for Coast Game

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Dec. 18.—In their last real work-out before they leave for San Diego, Calif., where they are to meet Gonzaga University on Christmas Day the West Virginia mountaineers looked more like the smooth working machine when they went through the season undefeated than at any time since getting back into training for the post-season game.

Boxer Injured, Bout Halted

ROCHESTER, Dec. 18.—The scheduled ten-round bout between Chubby Brown, of Rochester, and Willie Herman, of Rochester, N. J., was stopped in the fourth round here tonight because of a severe artery in Brown's head. The men are lightweights.

The Golfer's Christmas Wish

"Dear Santa Claus," I hear him say, "Bring me a swing that soaks the ball Two hundred yards or more away Before it even starts to fall; So at the finish of the stroke I'll be beyond the other bloke And make Abe Mitchell seem a joke."

"Then bring me next a firm approach That flutters up around the pin, Where I on greatness might encroach With keen control and subtle spin; Where Sarazen, with quaking knee, Would quit around the seventh tee And say 'This guy's too strong for me.'"

The Shaking Earth

The distant earth rumbles you may have noticed indicate the approaching footsteps of Floyd Johnson and Luis Angel Firpo, heavyweights, who are now focusing their gaze in Jack Dempsey's general direction.

Neither may ever make the slope, but they are receiving attention for these various reasons:

The Eternal Flame

Mrs. Mallory's intention to invade the tennis tournament domain of Southern France in order that she may face Mile. Lenglen again is sport's rarest example of "the will to win," the eternal flame that knows no quenching.

For three years now the American women's champion has launched attack and counter-attack upon the Lenglen throne, but defeats suffered abroad have never been able to break down her competitive soul.

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Traveling Bag Given To 'Bots' Brunner

EASTON, Pa., Dec. 18.—In appreciation of "his ability as an athlete, as a student, and a man among men," the Lafayette College student body today presented a large traveling bag to "Bots" Brunner, the halfback extraordinary of this year's Lafayette football team. The presentation was made by Al Le Coney, intercollegiate sprint champion.

N. Y. U. Basketball Team Will Oppose Wesleyan To-night

New York University's basketball team will play its second game of the season to-night when it meets Wesleyan at the University Heights' gymnasium.

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Rolling Fall Rule Is Answer To Decline of Wrestling Here

Efforts of Commissioner Muldoon to Reform Game Have Resulted in Killing This Popular Sport; Tex Austin Takes a Chance and Wins

By W. J. Macbeth

The wrestling game hereabouts for the last couple of years has been as dead as the wrestlers (from the neck up) because of the attitude of Chairman William Muldoon of the State Athletic Commission.

Mr. Muldoon, who should know the game from A to Z—it was in the profession or art he got his start toward affluence and influence—that the rolling fall was the proper caper to decide trials of skill among the head-spinners.

New York's peculiar element that worshipped at the shrine of this impetuous indoor sport had been educated for many years to pinfalls. Not even Mr. Muldoon could make them believe in the virtue of the flying fall, ten days.

And so the sport of "wrestling" in good old Gotham town has fallen upon evil days.

Chairman Muldoon doubtless believes he has effected a fine reform. He believes there is too great opportunity for hippodroming in those methods to which the New York public has been educated. In short, he believed the old order a hippodroming stunt, pure and simple.

Which may be true. But, in the words of Tom Davis, what of it? That Barnum was right, if Mr. Muldoon's surprise is correct, the local situation proved. The big matches under pinfall rules came to be almost as popular as the big fights. When championship boxing crowded the wrestlers out of Madison Square Garden and into the armories the tussles between Lewis and Zbyszka; between Stocher and Lewis; between Coddock and Stecher, etc., packed the spacious armory to the last square inch of space.

If the people enjoy being humbugged we see no reason why they should be deprived of a pet humbug for something else, perhaps worse. That wrestling, such as it was, was as popular as any other winter sport, the customary attendances at the big bouts proved.

So the "rollers," who have gone to moving pianos, and their peculiar clientele have an ear to the ground. It is whispered in polite sporting circles as well as in certain ward political centers that a change will be made in the New York State Athletic Commission as soon as Governor-elect Al Smith assumes the reins of government at Albany the first of the year.

Wrestling is under the jurisdiction of the boxing commission. Those interested in its rejuvenation are hopeful a new and more lenient board will succeed the present incumbents. Whether or not the fans are hungry for wrestling it is a copper-riveted clench that promoters and wrestlers are hungry for the old days when they trained on succulent porterhouse.

Very seldom has it ever been necessary for a racing association to postpone a day's program on account of rain. But such was the case at Jefferson Park, New Orleans, yesterday.

New Orleans mud is proverbial for heft and stickiness. It is even more treacherous than the blue clay of some of the tracks of Canada. And Canada, in the summer time, never gets the continued, penetrating rains that prevail during certain seasons in Louisiana.

But it is four or five years since a postponement was found necessary in the old Creole City, and then at City

for real enjoyment

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